

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims pending

- At time of the Action: Claims 1-20.
- After this Response: Claims 1-20.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: None

Amended claims: None

New claims: None

1. **(Original)** An apparatus, comprising:
a shield having a vertical portion sized to receive and protect at least a portion of a leg and a horizontal portion sized to receive and protect at least a portion of a foot, said shield removably positionable within at least a portion of a gaffed climbing apparatus.

2. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said shield is substantially convex about an outer surface of said shield.

3. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said shield is substantially concave about an inner surface of said shield.

4. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises at least one fastener positioned on said shield, said at least one fastener capable of assisting in attachment to the gaffed climbing apparatus.

1 5. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said fastener
2 comprises at least one magnet positioned on an outer surface of said shield.

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4 6. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said fastener
5 comprises hook and loop fasteners.

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7 7. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus
8 further comprises at least one fastener positioned on said vertical portion, said at
9 least one fastener capable of assisting in attachment to the at least a portion of a
10 leg.

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12 8. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said at least one
13 fastener is capable of receiving at least one strap.

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15 9. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said apparatus
16 further comprises at least one fastener positioned on said horizontal portion, said
17 at least one fastener capable of assisting in attachment to the at least a portion of a
18 foot.

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20 10. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said at least one
21 fastener is capable of receiving at least one strap.

22
23 11. **(Original)** An apparatus, comprising:
24 a hook member;
25 a spike member connected to said hook member; and

1 a shield member having a vertical portion sized to receive and
2 protect at least a portion of a leg and a horizontal portion sized to receive and
3 protect at least a portion of a foot, said shield member connected to said hook
4 member.

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6 12. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising at least
7 one fastener capable of assisting in attaching said apparatus to the at least a portion
8 of a leg.

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10 13. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising at least
11 one fastener capable of assisting in attaching said apparatus to the at least a portion
12 of a foot.

13
14 14. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said shield
15 member is substantially convex about an outer surface of said shield member.

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17 15. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said shield
18 member is substantially concave about an inner surface of said shield member.

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20 16. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said shield
21 member is connected to said hook member by at least one magnet.

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23 17. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said shield
24 member is connected to said hook member by hook and loop fasteners.
25

1 18. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said shield
2 member is permanently affixed to said hook member.

3
4 19. **(Original)** An apparatus, comprising:
5 vertical shielding means for protecting at least a portion of a leg; and
6 horizontal shielding means for protecting at least a portion of a foot,
7 said vertical shielding means connected to said horizontal shielding means, said
8 vertical shielding means sized to receive at least a portion of a leg and said
9 horizontal shielding means sized to receive at least a portion of a foot, said vertical
10 and horizontal shielding means removably positionable within at least a portion of
11 a gaffed climbing apparatus.

12
13 20. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said apparatus
14 further comprises at least one attachment means for assisting in attachment of at
15 least one of said vertical and horizontal shielding means to the gaffed climbing
16 apparatus, said at least one attachment means positioned on at least one of said
17 vertical and horizontal shielding means.